

REMARKS

Claims 19 and 20 have been amended. New claims 22-30 have been added. Claims 21 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claims 19-20 and 22-30 are currently pending in the application.

Priority

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgment of the claim for priority. The priority document was filed in the parent application, Serial No. 09/290,170.

Acknowledgment of receipt is respectfully requested.

Information Disclosure Statement

The PTO-1449 Form filed with the Information Disclosure Statement on April 24, 2001 has been initialed and returned with the Office Action. However, reference AR on page 5 has been crossed out. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to indicate consideration of this document, which formed part of the art of record in the parent application.

A copy of the PTO-1449 Form, page 5, is enclosed for the Examiner's convenience.

35 U.S.C. 101

Applicants disagree with the Examiner's contention that power that is generated cannot be stored. Applicants specifically describe power storage equipment 94 which can store electric energy. The Examiner's attention is directed to page 29, lines 4-26 of the specification, in particular, lines 17-26 of the specification. This reference to the specification is not intended to limit the scope of the claim as would be ordinarily interpreted. Nevertheless, claim 21 has been canceled but some of the subject matter of claims 21 has been added as dependent claims to independent claims 19 and 20. It is submitted that these claims do not lack utility and are therefore patentable.

35 U.S.C. §112

The elements that the Examiner contended were not contained in the claim but necessary have been added to the

claim, without admitting to the propriety of the Examiner's position. The Examiner also states that the disclosure is not enabling under 35 USC 112, first paragraph. Applicants assume that this statement is in error and was intended to refer to limitations that the Examiner requested be added to the claims. The disclosure is very thorough in describing the various terms mentioned by the Examiner so as to enable one of ordinary skill in the art to practice the claimed invention.

35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103

Claims 19 and 20 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Article 3/1995. Claim 21 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Article 3/1995 in view of DE 3242112A. These rejections are traversed as follows.

Claim 19 has been amended to specifically write that settlement is achieved through CO₂ emission right as such it is submitted that this claim patentably defines the present

invention over the cited art. Claim 20 has been amended to specify that the time information permits compensation for the time delay being incurred by transmission and can carry out control by synchronizing. While the article cited by the Examiner discusses the effective dates and duration, they are merely directed to the effective date of the contract.

Therefore, there is no disclosure of compensating for the time delay in control. Electric power is transmitted faster than the information signal about the transmission period. Therefore, such delayed information can be compensated for according to the present invention.

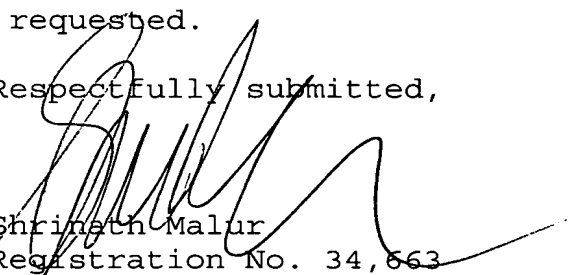
Finally, claim 21 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer in order to expedite prosecution of the present application. Additional dependent claims have been added to claims 19 and 20 to further define the present invention over the cited art.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants contend that the above-identified application is

now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Shrinath Malur
Registration No. 34,863
Attorney for Applicant(s)

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR
1800 Diagonal Rd., Suite 370
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 684-1120
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